

Stephane was selected from among six finalists and now joins a cohort of esteemed teachers from across the nation as Talofoto Elementary School's first award recipient in 52 years.

Early in life, Stephane understood the value of education; growing up, her mother, grandparents, and mentors made it a point to emphasize that learning should be a priority. Yet it wasn't just a lesson she was told—it is a fundamental truth she witnessed firsthand. As a young girl, Stephane routinely helped prepare her aunt's classroom for the new school year and saw how her dedication outside of it deeply affected the lives of her students. Stephane's first-grade teacher also drew compelling connections between education and fun that further nurtured her love for learning and desire to make a difference. Paired with her aspirations for purpose-driven service, these formative experiences propelled Stephane onto a path that similarly shapes children's educational journeys. After receiving her high school diploma at the Guam Community College, she earned a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from the University of Guam (UOG). She then returned to the university and went on to obtain two master's degrees in both Administration & Supervision and Reading.

Today, Stephane celebrates over 16 years of teaching with GDOE and as demonstrated throughout her career, she has and continues to both redefine and reimagine the vital role of a teacher in empowering communities. Beyond ensuring her students are adequately supported with uniquely tailored instructional styles and assistance, her leadership within the larger school system has meaningfully contributed to improving the learning experience for countless Guam students. As both a curriculum coordinator and school site instructional coach, Stephane has extensively collaborated with educators across the island, advocated for the evolving needs of our children, and worked diligently to stand up a robust school community by cultivating greater relationships and communication with parents, faculty, staff, and students.

On behalf of the People of Guam, I would like to extend a sincere congratulations to Stephane Camacho Concepcion. Her unwavering commitment to collaboration, collective progress, and student-centered success both underscores the criticality of education for all and inspires learners and educators alike to similarly rise as catalysts for positive transformation. Stephane's selflessness, passion, and determination to meet students where they are to best help them get to where they can and dream to be offers renewed hope in the achievements we can realize through heart and hard work, and I wish her the best on the rest of her professional journey.

HONORING THE LIFE OF J. ROY ROWLAND

HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2022

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I'd like to pay my respects to the late J. Roy Rowland, a pillar of our community who passed away on April 25, 2022, returning home to the Lord after 96 years of a life well lived.

Dr. Rowland was born in Wrightsville, Georgia in 1926. He served as a sergeant in the United States Army during World War II and practiced medicine in the middle Georgia area for 28 years.

Dr. Rowland later served his community both in the Georgia state legislature and the United States Congress, representing Georgia's Eighth District from 1983 to 1995, which included counties in today's Twelfth District.

Dr. Rowland was blessed with a servant's heart—a truth known well by his constituents, family, and all who were fortunate enough to call him "friend."

Dr. Rowland's passion for service persisted for decades after his retirement from Congress.

Ask any Member who followed him, and they will tell you they often fielded calls from Dr. Rowland seeking assistance with a constituent issue, tour request, or requesting support on a local issue.

Such was his lifelong dedication to the community.

In Galatians 5:13, the apostle Paul calls on us to serve another in love. We serve God by serving others.

Few men have heeded the apostle's call more thoroughly or more happily than Dr. Rowland during his 96 years on earth.

A true public servant, may he rest in peace.

HONORING BILL JONES

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2022

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Mr. Bill Jones, the former Executive Director of the Melissa Area Chamber of Commerce. Following a distinguished thirty-eight-year career in public service, a grateful community thanks Mr. Jones for his leadership and dedication.

Prior to role with the Melissa Area Chamber of Commerce, Bill served for an impressive thirty years as President and Executive Director of chambers and economic development organizations in various municipalities including those of Grove, Oklahoma; Branson, Missouri; Dumas, Texas; Rosenberg-Richmond, Texas; and Bonham, Texas. Bill's steadfast leadership generated financial and membership growth in each of these organizations enhancing their effectiveness and ability to serve members of the community.

Mr. Jones would go on to enjoy a brief two-year retirement in Bonham, Texas where he spent his time managing the Fannin County Multi-Purpose Complex, a facility which he was instrumental in developing.

Shortly after moving to Melissa, Texas, on January 6, 2014, Bill would come out of retirement to begin his tenure as the Executive Director of the Melissa Area Chamber of Commerce. Due to his vast knowledge and experience in economic development, he would guide the Chamber during a pivotal time of rapid growth.

Bill Jones is highly esteemed within the community as evidenced by his election as the first President of the Trails of Melissa Homeowners Association, appointment to the Texas Chamber of Commerce and Business Executives, and role as the Community Partner for McKinney Buick GMC.

Now as he enters retirement, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in commending Bill Jones for his many efforts and his dedication to serving the Melissa business community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF KAREN SMITH

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the incredible life of Karen S. Smith of Gloversville, New York. Karen was an active member of the Fulton County community, and she will be dearly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her.

Karen was born on December 22, 1946 in Indiana. She graduated from Gloversville High School and attended SUNY Brockport. Karen then obtained her master's degree in reading education from the College of St. Rose. After graduation, Karen began her career as a teacher dedicated to serving some of the youngest members of the Fulton County community. She taught at many schools throughout New York, including Mt. Carmel Elementary School, in the former Oppenheim-Ephratah Central School District, the Tryon School, and in the Greater Amsterdam School District. Karen's commitment to improving her community was evident through her teaching, and Fulton County is better off because of her service.

Karen was an integral part of the Fulton County Republican Committee for over twenty-five years. During that time, she served as the committee secretary, a state committeeman, and the chairwoman of the Gloversville City Committee. She also loyally served as the president of Fulton County Women's Republican Committee and as the president of the New York State Federation of Republican Women. Additionally, Karen was an active member in the Fulton County Republican Chairman's Club and the Fulton County Republican Club. Karen brought much needed leadership to all of her roles and shared her extensive expertise with the Republican Party of New York.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I thank and honor Karen Smith for her incredible life of service and extend my deepest condolences to her family, friends, and the entire Fulton County community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLOTTE KLEEMAN

HON. MIKE GARCIA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2022

Mr. GARCIA of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, memory, and legacy of a great Californian and one of the great philanthropists in California's 25th District, Charlotte Kleeman. A devoted servant to her community, a loving wife, and an amazing mother, Charlotte exemplified what it means to give back and live your life in the service of others.